



Lamar Alexander of Tennessee - Chairman

Precision Medicine Initiative

*In January 2015, the president announced a Precision Medicine Initiative – a plan to map the genomes of 1 million volunteers and make the data available to researchers so they can **develop treatments and cures tailored to a patient's genome, rather than one-size-fits-all treatments.** For a patient with diabetes, this means that scientists could potentially develop treatments based upon specific genetics, lifestyle and environment – rather than the more general category of diabetes.*

- 21st Century Cures will support the president's Precision Medicine Initiative, a plan to map 1 million volunteers' genomes, by:
 - **Strengthening privacy protections** – meaning that if I volunteer to have my genome mapped, I can be sure that my genetic information will not be shared with anyone other than the researchers participating in the initiative;
 - **More flexibility for NIH** – making it easier for the agency to partner with cutting-edge private sector companies doing this advanced research, e.g. the Vanderbilt-Google collaboration;
 - **NIH researchers must share their data** – Giving the NIH the authority to require researchers who receive a research grant from the NIH to share their data from that research grant with the agency so other researchers can benefit from good data already collected, particularly helpful in the studying of rare diseases; and
 - **Improving electronic health records** – Improving health information technology so data can more easily flow between patients who consent to share their information and researchers working to develop individualized treatments and cures.